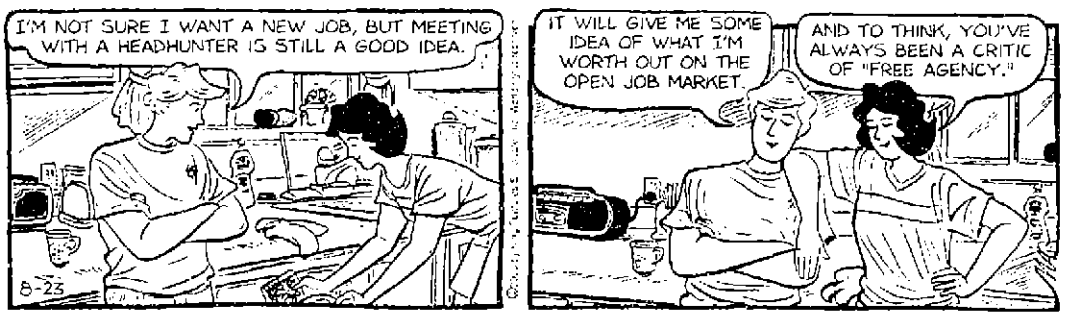
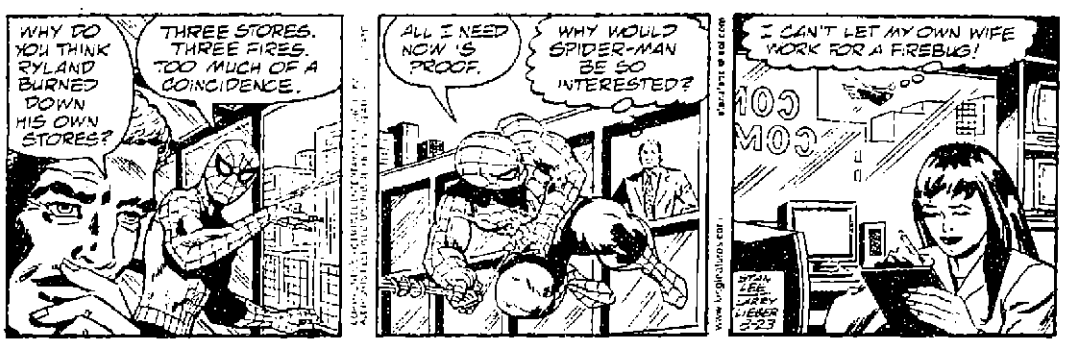
BLONDIE

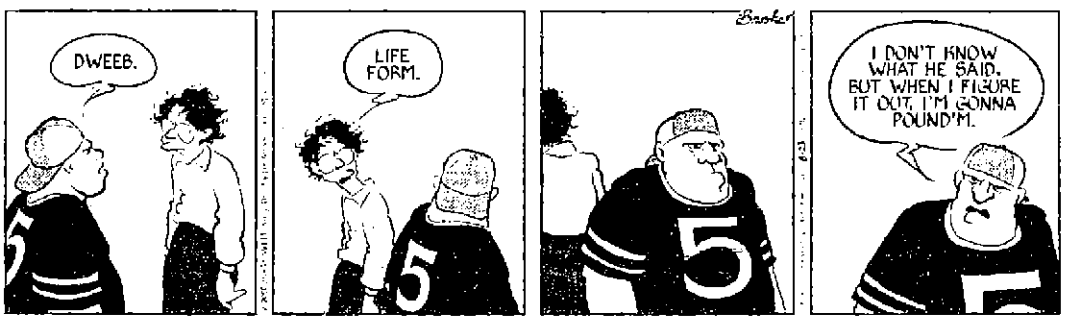
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



JUMP START

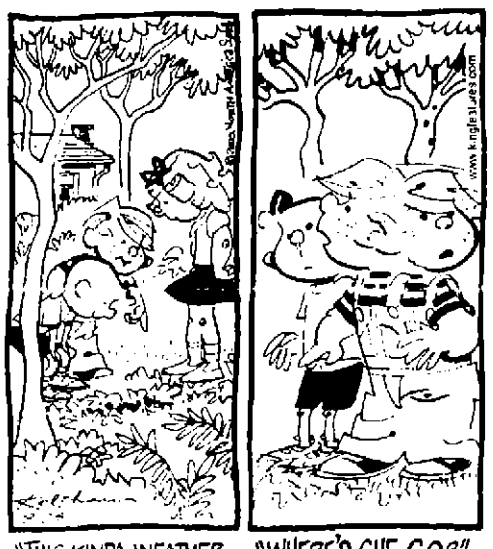
ROSE IS ROSE

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM

DILBERT

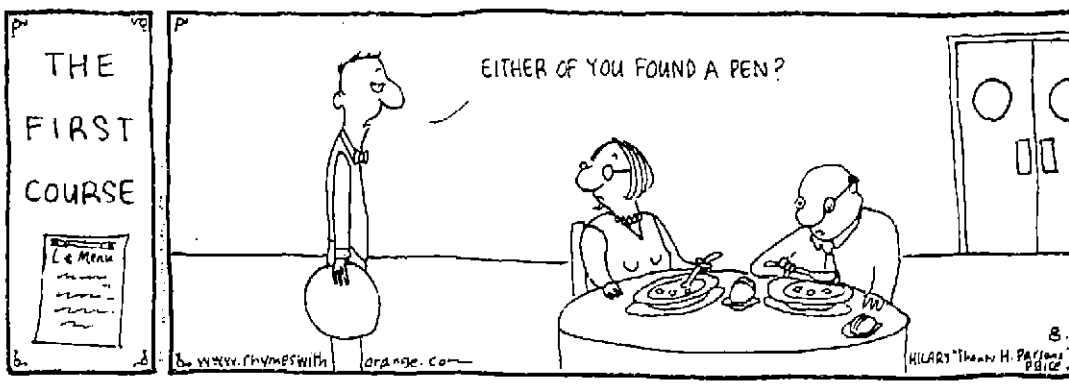
DENNIS THE MENACE



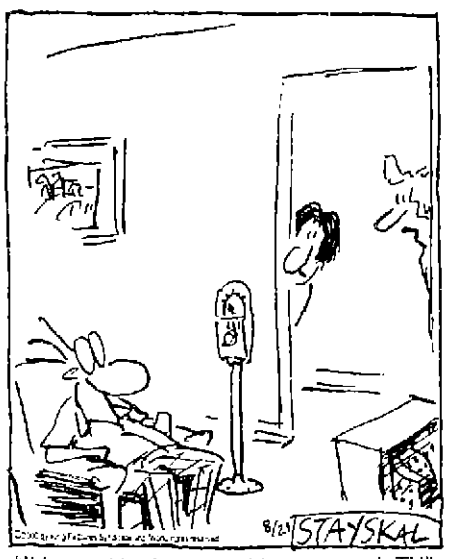
FAMILY CIRCUS

"Daddy, which is this — soil or dirt?"

RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH

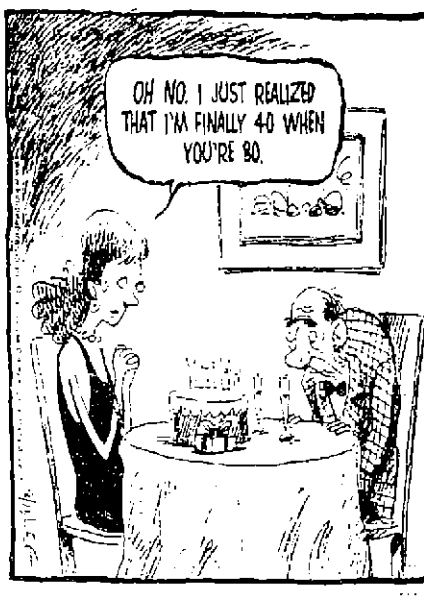


"It keeps him from watching too much TV."

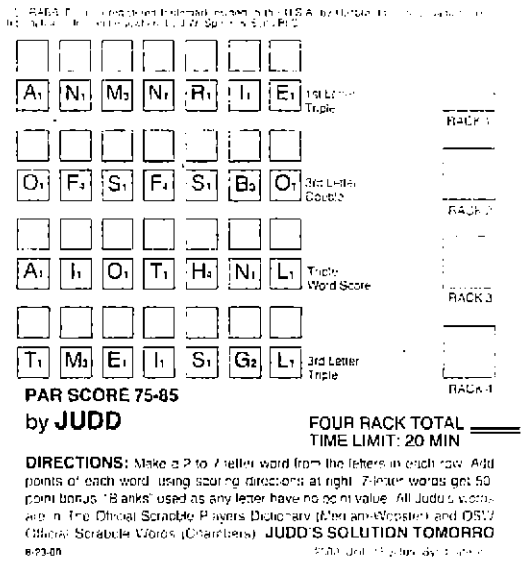
Today's Birthdays

Movie director **Robert Mulligan** is 75. Actress **Vera Miles** is 70. Political satirist **Mark Russell** is 68. Actress **Barbara Eden** is 66. Actor **Ronny Cox** is 62. Actor **Richard Sanders** is 60. Ballet dancer **Patricia McBride** is 58. Former Surgeon General **Antonia Novello** is 56. Country singer **Rex Allen Jr.** is 53. Actress **Shelley Long** is 51. Actor-singer **Rick Springfield** is 51.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE



PAR SCORE 75-85
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL ___
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50 point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OSW (Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORRO

8-23-00

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Thursday, Aug. 24

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Form alliances and make partnerships that can help you achieve your goals.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Others may intentionally try to confuse you or hold their thumb over the small print.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You're like a teen-ager again — giggling, nauseous and harboring very strong feelings for someone.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Get in touch with your lazy side and let it rule.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Your mouth and your brain aren't on speaking terms, and the results keep getting you into trouble.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Your career goals are getting closer to realization.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You're having difficulty getting others to see things from your perspective.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) The bed you've created awaits you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A friend in need is calling in a favor.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) A discreet interlude can be exciting but dangerous.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You have to take a risk to find happiness.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Even your beloved family may not know how to handle your newest crazed project.

WORD SLEUTH

NOT YOUR AVERAGE COLOR

R	J	F	B	Y	U	R	O	K	C	H	D	A	X	U
Q	N	K	H	E	B	Y	V	S	I	Y	Y	P	M	J
H	E	B	Y	V	T	Q	O	L	N	I	N	G	D	B
B	A	R	D	E	V	I	L	O	N	Y	W	L	W	T
R	P	M	K	I	F	R	B	E	A	D	A	B	R	Y
W	U	S	Q	O	M	E	K	I	M	R	T	E	F	Y
D	B	Z	X	M	I	B	W	U	O	A	B	V	B	I
S	Q	O	N	G	R	M	L	C	N	M	R	U	K	J
H	F	D	E	L	B	A	S	C	U	O	R	A	F	A
Y	W	V	T	S	Q	P	W	N	S	L	H	M	C	F
K	I	H	F	E	C	B	Z	E	Y	K	W	V	U	S

Tuesday's unlisted clue: WINE

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: U.S. Army's Favorite Color

Amber	Cinnamon	Mauve	Tawny
Beige	Coral	Rose	Umber
Buff	Ebony	Ruby	Warm
Caramel	Khaki	Sable	

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8/23

For solution, see Classified.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

At the first table, South took West's heart queen and led a low spade to dummy's 10. Had the 10 held South planned to finesse twice in clubs. With the honors split, he would have scored 10 tricks. Unfortunately, dummy's spade 10 lost to East's queen, and East returned a heart. South ducked to West's 10, but West exited safely in spades. Now South could take only one club finesse, managing only eight winners. "I should have led my spade jack," confessed a repentant South. "When it loses, I will have two spade entries for two club finesses." "Not so fast," replied his teammate West. "That's what South did at our table. And he st went down!" Why did this South fail? East made the excellent play of refusing to win South's spade jack; and South carelessly took the bait. He led another spade to dummy's 10, and East took his queen. This brought South back to square one and also lost him his game. How does South cinch the game after East brilliant duck in spades? He settles on two club winners instead of three, and he leads clubs from his ha to guarantee two winners — just enough to clinch hi game.

	NORTH ♠ A 10 5 ♥ 9 4 3 ♦ 10 8 6 3 ♣ J 10 8
WEST ♠ 8 7 2 ♥ Q J 10 7 ♦ Q 4 2 ♣ K 4 3	EAST ♠ Q 9 6 3 ♥ 6 5 ♦ J 9 7 5 ♣ Q 5 2
	SOUTH ♠ K J 4 ♥ A K 8 2 ♦ A K ♣ A 9 7 6

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: South

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: Heart queen

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 07

ACROSS

1 Ready
5 Vast extents
10 Break in relations
14 Cassowary cousins
15 Look for
16 Sneaking suspicion
17 Humor in its verse possible form?
19 Showy flower, for short
20 Basket twigs
21 Poetic palindrome
22 Wife of Zeus
23 Demier ___
24 Prerevolutionary state
26 Parts of geometry calculations
27 Edit comedy scripts?
31 Scale member
32 Summon, in a way
33 City ESE of Bombay
34 Plowed land
36 It creates drafts
38 Disney's middle name
39 Plummet's opposite
40 ___ Missouri
41 Comedy writing?
44 "___ China" policy
45 Full-service components?
46 Gaelic "Gee!"
47 Petit four finisher
50 When it's broken, that's good
51 Wedding sites
54 Move like molasses
55 Joke postscripts?
57 Lean and sinewy
58 Wool source
59 Blow off steam
60 Word for Yorick
61 Badlands formations
62 Son of Seth

DOWN

1 Defaulter's loss
2 Stern competitor
3 Cure for sick jokes?
4 Fragrant compounds
5 Farm mothers
6 Farm mother
7 Totally gone
8 Coyote State capital
9 "Sophie's Choice" Oscar winner
10 "Stat!"
11 Like some rumors
12 Four Freedoms subject
13 "Behold!"
18 Uris hero
24 1997 Fonda role
25 Fab
26 W.W. I French soldier
27 Seek spare change
28 Witticism capital?
29 "Ocupado"
30 Where cures are discovered
31 Stage
32 ___ metabolism
35 Eel look-alikes
36 ___ de Bologne (park west of Paris)
37 Grammy category
39 Hillary supporters
42 Flamethrower fuel
43 Bread or butter
44 Pianist's span
46 Getting on
47 Caucus state
48 Slinky, basically
49 Browning's "Rabbi Ben ___"
51 Literary collections
52 City near Spa
53 Tu-144 and others
56 Actress Thurman

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	A	M	P		R	E	D	B	U	D		S	P	A
A	G	U	A		E	L	A	I	N	E		T	A	C
F	I	S	T		F	I	R	S	T	B	L	U	S	H
E	L	I	T	E		L	O	I		A	P	S	E	
S	E	C	O	N	D	H	A	N	D		T	I	E	D
		N	C	A	A		S	Y	N	O	D			
O	S	U			R	N	A			A	Y	E	R	S
R	U	N	N	I	N	G	T	H	E	B	A	S	E	S
E	P	C	O	T			T	E	X			T	O	T
		L	O	E	S	S		R	E	A	P			
R	E	A	D		T	H	I	R	D	W	O	R	L	D
E	M	I	L		I	O	N			S	T	A	I	R
H	O	M	E	O	F	F	I	C	E			A	L	A
A	T	E		P	L	A	T	E	R			S	L	I	P
B	E	D		P	E	R	S	O	N			H	Y	D	E

Puzzle by William A. Bellard

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95c per minute).

Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.